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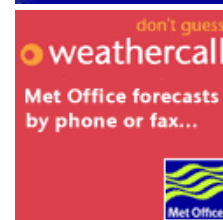
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Gales to end the week

22 May 2002

Met Office forecasters are predicting 60 miles per hour gusts on Friday as unseasonal weather sweeps across central and southern Britain from the Atlantic.

During the day south-westerly winds will increase with gusts of around 60 miles per hour forecast, particularly over the exposed coasts and hills of England and Wales.

Nigel Reed, Head of Forecasting at the Met Office, said: "This is not like a mid-winter storm but, for late May, it will become very windy during Friday. People will need to think carefully, and keep in touch with the latest weather forecasts, before taking to sea in small boats, towing caravans or putting up tents and marquees."

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